

15 IN 5 COMMUNITY CENTER COMPLEX COMMITTEE
PLANNING LIFELONG ACTIVITIES FOR YOU (PLAY) TASK FORCE
Meeting Minutes of June 18, 2009 (submitted by Ron Gonder)
Cedar Rapids Parks & Recreation Dept. Parks Offices 7:30-9:00 A.M.

Attendance

Committee Members: Tom Saxen & Myrt Bowers, co-chairpersons, Ron Gonder, secretary, Phil Wasta, Judy Fitzgibbons, Jackie Harrington, Gail Loskill, Mary Day, Brian Long and Robin Robinson

Secretary's Error

Secretary Gonder reported during discussions that the FIFTH anniversary of this committee was coming up in August. Upon further review (as they say on football telecasts), it's been discovered that it will be the FOURTH anniversary of this committee on August 24, 2009. As a matter of interest the current members of the committee who were at that first meeting are: Judy Fitzgibbons, Julie Sina, Myrt Bowers and Ron Gonder.

Chamber Of Commerce Presentation

The PLAY presentation on the progress of the Community Center Complex (CCC) on May 27th at the Chamber of Commerce offices to chamber members, governmental officials and interested individuals and groups went very well.

Jones Park Baseball Project

The fundraising for the Jones Park baseball project has been completed. The total raised was \$160,000. A Rockwell contribution of \$10,000 made it possible to put irrigation into the project. The flexible-use diamonds will be ready for play next spring. Perfect Game has become an integral partner providing baseball equipment and instructors. It was later learned that minor league baseball would like to become involved in supplying uniforms for youth baseball participants, with the details to be worked out.

City Open Houses

The CCC will be a part of the three flood-related open houses that have been scheduled for June, August and October to gather public input. Williams Architects will be part of the CCC participation.

Williams Contract

The Williams Architects update report is due on June 30, 2009 and Williams is scheduled to provide additional recommendations with regard to the CCC in October in a finalized report that will go to the city council.

Steps To Completion

The goal is to get the CCC project to a shovel-ready stage. Once that's done then the pieces can be put in place for funding the project. The three city open houses will tell PLAY what the design needs to be on a CCC.

CCC Site

The second city Open House will suggest possible locations for the CCC and get public opinions on those locations. There was some opposition to the Ellis site that was designated in response to the EDA and state legislative funding grant criteria applications that were earlier submitted and turned down. At the August 18th city Open House site options will be presented for the public to consider.

Partners

Work will continue to identify partners who might wish to occupy space in a CCC. PLAY will proceed in drawing up a letter to be mailed to prospective partners in an effort to establish interest. At some appropriate juncture a meeting with prospective partners will be held.

Farmers Markets

Good public engagement has resulted from the information booth at the Saturday downtown Farmers Market. Manning the booth is covered through the July 18th market. Judy Fitzgibbons and Nancy Nygren's efforts have been a key in the success of the booth thus far. All PLAY members (and other interested individuals) are encouraged to step up and participate in these outreach efforts.

Next Meeting

The next meeting has been set for Thursday, July 9th at 7:30 A.M. at the Cedar Rapids Parks and Recreation Dept. Parks Offices.